

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



April 12, 2026

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 12, 2026

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: On this Second Sunday of Easter, we gather with the disciples in the aftermath of resurrection—still carrying fear, grief, and uncertainty. In John 20:19–31, we encounter a community marked by collective trauma, gathered behind locked doors, trying to make sense of all they have witnessed and endured. Into that space, the risen Christ comes—not with judgment, but with peace. Not dismissing their wounds, but acknowledging them. Not isolating individuals, but restoring a community. Today, our worship invites us to consider how resurrection is not only a personal experience, but a communal one. We are reminded that healing does not happen in isolation, and that faith is often nurtured in the presence of others who carry their own stories of doubt, loss, and hope. As we worship, may we bring our whole selves—our questions, our wounds, and our longing for new life—trusting that Christ meets us here, among us, and calls us into a shared resurrection.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Michael Hood

The Trinity Chimes

Three chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, centering us in the embrace of the Spirit. As we gather, we present ourselves “as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship.”

The Prelude

“Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain”
James Biery

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

LEADER: Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

PEOPLE: **God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.**

LEADER: God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

PEOPLE: **In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.**

LEADER: For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him;
and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

PEOPLE: **For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.**

*The Hymn of Praise, 92 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

DIADEMATA

*The Invocation

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The First Reading

Psalm 16

Mary Lou Dodd

- ¹Keep me safe, my God,
for in you I take refuge.
- ²I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;
apart from you I have no good thing."
- ³I say of the holy people who are in the land,
"They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight."
- ⁴Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.
I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods
or take up their names on my lips.
- ⁵Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.
- ⁶The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.
- ⁷I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.
- ⁸I keep my eyes always on the Lord.
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.
- ⁹Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;
my body also will rest secure,
- ¹⁰because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,
nor will you let your faithful one see decay.
- ¹¹You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹⁴Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: ²²“Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵David said about him:

“I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

²⁶Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest in hope,

²⁷because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

you will not let your holy one see decay.

²⁸You have made known to me the paths of life;

you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. ³²God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

*The Hymn of Devotion “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

LAND OF REST

We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
“My peace be with you here.”

We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found.

And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
may we behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.

Words: Henry Alford, 1844, alt.
Music: Traditional American Melody

The Call to Prayer (responsive)

LEADER: Risen and redemptive one, we watch for you.

PEOPLE: **Holy and healing one, we wait for you.**

LEADER: Open our eyes that we may see.

PEOPLE: **Open our ears that we may hear.**

LEADER: You are ever coming to set us free.

PEOPLE: **Wherever we are, you are ever near.**

The Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven.
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Anthem

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

Hal H. Hopson, arr.

Sanctuary Choir

Anna Anderson, dir.

Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love by hatred slain,
Thinking that He would never wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for three days in the grave had lain;
Raised from the dead my living Lord is seen:
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

Words: John M. C. Crum, 1928, alt.

Music: French carol, 15th century

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. ²¹Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²²And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” ²⁸Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

“Still Trembling”

Leah Reed

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

If you desire membership in this congregation, you are invited to present yourself during the singing of the Hymn of Discipleship. As an open membership church, we honor your previous baptism in any other Christian community. If you have not made a confession of faith, we invite you to do so and receive Christian baptism. Church members are invited to use this time to reflect upon their covenantal relationship with God and their commitment to Christian service.

DEPARTING TO SERVE

*The Benediction

*The Chimes

Three chimes are sounded, sending us into the world with the love of God, the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. As you go, remember, “you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people.”

*The Postlude

“Now the Green Blade Rises”
Wayne L. Wold

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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The Call to Worship is from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1*.

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The Deacon on Call is Mary Lou Dodd. A 44-year member and first-term deacon, Mary Lou is a member of the Pathfinders Sunday School class. She has three adult children, Michael, Anna, and Margaret, and four grandchildren.

The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Colonel and Mrs. William T. Joyner by their family.

Sympathy to the family of Johnny Shaver, who died April 3.

In an effort to keep our database current, we ask that if you have had any changes to your address, phone number, email address, or family status, please let the church office know by emailing Jennie Herrick at jherrick@fbcraleigh.org.

Our mission project this month supports *The No Woman No Girl Initiative*, which provides hygiene supplies to individuals and families through family distribution events and street outreach. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for a list of needed supplies that you may purchase and donate. Place your donations in the marked drawer of the cabinet in the Lewis Lobby throughout the month of April.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, April 15; meal served at 5pm, prayer time and program at 6pm. We conclude our book study of *I Think You're Wrong (But I'm Listening)* by Sarah Stewart Holland and Beth Silvers. Holly Ivel leads our discussion as we unpack the challenges of political conversations.

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice), by email (dmast@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485). The menu on April 15 is: chicken kale bowl with couscous, cheese, olives, and veggies; veg option: veggie kale bowl; kids: roasted sweet potatoes.

Join us for a landscape workday this Saturday, April 18, from 1:30–4pm (*please note time change!*). Everyone is welcome and we will have jobs for all age groups. If you can help that day, contact Jeff Hobart at Hobart2473@gmail.com so we will know how many volunteers to expect. If you have any of the following items, please bring them: rakes, shovels, leaf blowers, wheelbarrows.

In the event of an emergency, first aid kits can be found at the greeting desk in the Lewis Lobby and in the workroom in the church office. The church has two defibrillators (AED): one between the elevator and the church offices on the second floor and one on the main floor behind the sanctuary on the Edenton Street side.

Diaper changing stations are located in the men's and women's bathrooms on each floor of the Lewis building, and a nursing room is located in our preschool suite on the first floor.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship! Worship bags are located in the narthex and in the Gathering Room; preschoolers (birth – kindergarten) are also welcome to join the supervised play in the preschool suite on first floor.

To access the church WiFi, please use our guest network: *FBC-MG*; password: "biography." You will need to sign in upon each use.

Calendar Highlights • April 12-19

Sunday, April 12

- 9:00 Nominating Committee (conference room/Zoom)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/Leah Reed preaching (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth group (Blue Room)

Monday, April 13

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open
- 6:30 Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

Tuesday, April 14

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 1:30 Yoga (302)

Wednesday, April 15

- 5:15 Meal served (fellowship hall)
- 5:45 Children's music (307/311)
- 6:15 Centerpoint (fellowship hall)
- 6:30 Children's missions (preschool and children's suites)
Evening Bells rehearsal (302)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310)

Thursday, April 16

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners (fellowship hall)

Saturday, April 18

- 9:30 Children's Mission Day (Trinity Baptist, 4815 Six Forks Rd)
- 1:30 Landscape workday (church grounds)

Sunday, April 19

- 9:00 Nominating Committee (conference room/Zoom)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth group (Blue Room)



To facilitate your giving to FBC, use this QR code to link to the website for our main electronic giving and the page that lists all our e-giving options and instructions.

Visiting? We'd love to get to know you. Scan the QR code to the right to share your contact information.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
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Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor

J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus	Warren Howell, Music
Wayne Hager, Church Administrator	Lynn Lingafelt, Children
Michael Hood, Youth/College	Jun Matsuzaki, Japanese Ministry Pastor
Maureen Howell, Organist/Music Assistant	Leah Anderson Reed, Community

A place of grace, a place of challenge, a place for you.